



## Week of the Young Child

April 6-12, 2003



**"Children's Opportunities -  
Our Responsibilities"**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Week of the Young Child – April 6-12, 2003*

### **Celebrates Young Children in Shasta County**

March 6, 2003 (Redding)-----First 5 Shasta, *the Shasta Children and Families First Commission*, and the California Cascade Association for the Education of Young Children (CCA EYC) have joined forces to orchestrate a countywide celebration of the "*Week of the Young Child*" from April 6-12, 2003. The Week of the Young Child (WOYC), established in 1971 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, honors children from birth to age eight. This year, more local sponsors and supporters than ever before have united to offer quality WOYC events and activities that reflect the 2003 WOYC theme, "Children's Opportunities-Our Responsibilities." All community members are invited to join the celebration by attending events and participating in activities, including joining children for daily bubble blowing at 10:00 a.m., April 6-12<sup>th</sup>.

Shasta County's WOYC events and activities highlight the importance of families, early childhood professionals, and entire communities working together to support every child's healthy development and to promote quality early learning experiences. Muffy Berryhill, executive director of First 5 Shasta, says "The Week of the Young Child provides families, agencies, community groups, and individuals with an opportunity to focus on the critical role we each play in the healthy development and successful education of children. The more we invest in our children – with our time, our resources and in forming positive relationships, the more we are investing in the future of Shasta County."

Opportunities abound to participate in WOYC events and activities, many of which are free. A full calendar of WOYC events can be found online at <http://ccfc.ca.gov/shasta> . Calendars will also be available at the following locations beginning March 14<sup>th</sup>: Acorn Café (Montgomery Creek), School Tools (Hilltop Drive), Shasta County Public Health, Senor Rosas (Eureka Way), Office Depot (Dana Drive), Safeway, Shasta Family YMCA, Blockbuster Video (Anderson), Bartels Giant Burger (Anderson and Redding), Dollar Tree (Lake Blvd.) and Mercy Medical Center.

The following WOYC events require registration or reservations:

- April 5<sup>th</sup> (8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) – **Proud Dads Seminar** by Hogan Hilling, author of The Man Who Would Be Dad and a featured guest on the 2001 Oprah Winfrey Show's "Father's Day" program. **FREE!** To register call 246-3729.
- April 8<sup>th</sup> (8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) – **Brain Development and Early Childhood Learning Conference** with Dr. Barbara Clark, author of Growing Up Gifted and original host of the Romper Room television program.  
To register call 229-8497
- April 9<sup>th</sup> (6:30 – 8:15 p.m.) – **Gems of Knowledge Parent Seminar Series** (includes four topics) presented by Shasta College Early Childhood Education Center and Shasta Head Start  
**FREE!** Call 222-6648
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – **Preschool Day at Turtle Bay** for preschool groups and individuals.  
**FREE – Spaces limited.** For reservations call 242-3136
- April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> (9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.) – **Schreder Planetarium Preschool Show**, "Our Place in Space," for preschool groups.  
**FREE – Spaces limited.** For reservations call 225-0267.

These events are just a few of the WOYC highlights. Other events include an exhibit of children's art at Turtle Bay, family dinners, health fairs, children's book exchanges, and specially scheduled "Celebrity Readings" at county and volunteer library locations across the county.

The generosity of the following sponsors and supporters have made WOYC 2003 events and activities possible: A Phillips Production, Bridges to Success, CCAEYC, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council, El Comite' Guadalupano, First 5 Shasta, KIXE-TV, Northern Hispanic Latino Coalition, Northstate for Gate, Round Table Pizza, Shasta College Early Childhood Education Center, Shasta County Adoptions, Options & Licensing, Shasta County Library, Shasta County Mental Health, Shasta County Office of Education, Shasta County Public Health, Shasta Family YMCA, Shasta Head Start and Early Head Start, Shasta Parent, and Turtle Bay Exploration Park and Museum. Other organizations and local "celebrities" that wish to be a part of this ambitious celebration of the young children in our area are urged to contact Rachelle Sousa at First Five Shasta.

**For more information: Rachelle Sousa, WOYC Coordinator**

**530-229-8300 Cell: 530-200-1860**

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**Calendar of Events Follows**

**Media Backgrounder available upon request**

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